

SOUTHWEST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING
Thursday, October 15, 2020
7:00 PM
Approved Minutes

[Online Zoom Meeting](#) - Click this link to view meeting

1. Zoom meeting was opened by President Gail Cerveny at 7:00 pm. Approximate Attendance: 19+ (some households had more than 1 person attending)
2. Brandon Harer hosted and began by reviewing various Zoom features that will be used during the meeting.
3. Gail Cerveny led a practice using Zoom by having participants introduce each other via Zoom's features.
4. Approval of Minutes of January 23, 2020 - Motion was made from Gail Cerveny and carried.
5. Treasurer's Report – Dana Duval in absentia: \$539.70 as of the January 23, 2020 meeting
6. Elections – Brandon
 - a. Brandon Harer nominated Gail Cerveny as president; election carried
 - b. Gail Cerveny nominated Brandon Harer Vice President; election carried
 - c. Steve Bennett nominated Teri Knight as Secretary; election carried
 - d. Treasurer Dana Duval was not present but was nominated by Gail Cerveny; election carried
 - e. Teri Knight nominated Steve Bennett as Land-Use Chair; Steve agreed to serve until March or April 2021; election carried
7. Gail introduced guest speaker Gresham Police Sergeant Todd VanBeek (21 year veteran)

a. Gresham Police Department Neighborhood Enforcement Team (NET)

Per leadership direction from spring, police action was limited; covid slowed ability to respond and courts slowed so there is a large backlog of cases.

Gresham Issues:

Drug houses

Marijuana grow houses (\$1 million worth of marijuana was found in one shed)

Budget issues: crime analyst position terminated

SW Neighborhood: crime has been mostly theft; some accidents

Questions and Answers:

Sgt. VanBeek stated that due to the crime analyst position being eliminated this year, a statistic report for calls for service in SWNA was unavailable to review today.

Q: Speeding on 181st with loud cars; several accidents on Powell and 181st

A: Ban on writing speeding tickets was lifted last week; enforcement has resumed; based on crash statistics and complaints

Q: Can neighborhood associations have speed signs; reserve speed trailer?

A: Speed / radar signs very expensive and budget will prevent it; speed trailer is in high demand

Q: What are the trends for the homeless on Springwater Trail? Do we still have homeless specialists?

A: Gresham has 2 specialists which have had great success; only a few "service-resistant" individuals remain; clean up is a priority; must have a shelter or we cannot move them from where they're at; specialists are making sure this isn't happening. My Gresham App is best way to report problems.

Q: Is there a problem with police brutality in Gresham?

A: There have been hundreds of police contacts this year, with only 18 complaints - most of these were relatively minor; Gresham has a very good record regarding this issue.

Q: If people start rioting in Gresham, will police be supported by city government?

A: There were a couple protests this summer, but they were defused and did not cause the damage.

Q: Brittany Drive is a 25 mile speed limit - how new is this? Can we get speed bumps to slow traffic?

A: Speed bumps have mixed results statistically; it is very hard to get them approved; best to go to My Gresham App to complain.

Q: Who's paying for all the ADA sidewalk improvements

A: Required; city has so many years to make all sidewalks of city ADA accessible

Q: Are handicap parking / wheelchair only spots being enforced by citizens?

A: There was a man who was doing this, but no longer; now traffic police are ticketing people parking in handicap parking spots.

Q: Do police patrol Springwater Trail?

A: Usually done by school resource officers in the summer.

Q: Are car thieves being prosecuted?

A: No. Very hard to prosecute in Multnomah County.

Q: Ring Doorbell cameras: Can the video be used to prosecute crimes?

A: Not just Ring, but others have really helped deal with crime by getting surveillance footage. Nest is also a good product. Be aware, with holidays coming, package thefts are going to be up.

Q: Does Oregon have a stand your ground law?

A: No; you can use reasonable force to protect yourself or others - But it all depends on how a jury considers the circumstances.

Q: Could we get a list of specific contacts useful for crime issues we are aware of?

A: Yes; it will be sent out to SWNA members (see below)

Closing Remarks: Best way to get tips and concerns to the police is My Gresham app.

8. Land use report by Steve Bennett: Has not received a land use permit request all year; just got one for Gresham Butte - a house and shop scheduled to be built; second one is for SW Gresham - propose to improve a lot - remove some trees in a conservation area.

Steve recommended you drive through 190th to see the new development going in - it had been predicted for many years. Future plans include five lanes on 190th.

9. Open Forum - No new comments

8:30: Meeting adjourned

Teri Knight
Secretary

Police non-emergency 503-823-3333

NET tip line 503-618-2638 (Sergeant VanBeek gets a copy of these tips about twice a week.)

My Gresham Application- link to smart phone app located here:

<https://greshamoregon.gov/Mobile-Applications/>

-desktop version <https://greshamoregon.gov/my-gresham/>

NET Team:

Sgt. Ted VanBeek 503-793-8419

Officer Rick Blake: 503-793-1557

Officer Daniel Tatro 503-545-9007

Officer Chuck Skeahan 503-793-3278